

Accessible and interconnected - A Comprehensive Dissemination Infrastructure for Design Research.

Workshop convened by Prof Chris Rust, Sheffield Hallam University

Sheffield Hallam University is developing a pilot for a comprehensive online system for disseminating both academic research and professional practice. This is based on recent theories about new forms of academic publication by (for example by Odlyzko and Harnad), the pioneering work of the Los Alamos Physics Archive and the widely used "eprints" software developed by Southampton University. Ideally the project will both enhance the work of existing journals and create opportunities for new publications.

The aim of the workshop and supporting demonstration is:

- to present the main theoretical issues and the institutional context
 - to demonstrate a working prototype of an archive which will support multiple "journals"
 - to evaluate the practical potential of this resource
 - to develop a shared understanding of some of the institutional and intellectual questions involved
-
- and in particular to invite collaboration from individuals and institutions

Workshop content

The workshop participants will be provided with advance reading in the form of a briefing paper, selected readings and links to relevant online resources. They will also have the opportunity to see a demonstration of the proposed system showing how it can support the development, refereeing and editing of research work. The emphasis will be on constructive debate - the workshop will provide a forum to discuss implications for both scholarship and institutions and it is hoped that it will allow this project to proceed as an international collaboration, rather than a single institution enterprise.

While this is of relevance to any researcher with an interest in dissemination and access to knowledge we would like especially to encourage participation by people currently editing, or planning journals and other resources for research.

There will be a maximum of 25 places in the workshop. If you are registered for the EAD Conference and wish to take part please in this workshop contact Chris Rust (c.rust@shu.ac.uk).